

## Types of Poetry

**Free verse – think Outback Steakhouse “No Rules, Just Right”**

### **Reflex**

The taste of betrayal  
Slipped past indifference in unexpected delivery,  
Worse for the mark it finds.  
I offer up what I can,  
The self-desecrating altar blinded to consequence  
Hoping my sacrifice will please.  
I speak against the grain of my being,  
Roiling with disgust at more than self or inadequacy  
As I see my own interests beneath my knees

**Quatrains** - HEY!! Does anybody have a quarter? What's a quarter have to do with this type of poetry? Well, a quarter is 1/4 of a dollar. The word quatrain comes from Latin and French words meaning "four." See the connection? The quatrain is a poem or stanza of four lines. It is a very popular form of poetry. Famous poets like William Blake and T. S. Eliot used quatrains. Read this example:

Tyger! Tyger! burning bright

In the forests of the night,

What immortal hand or eye

Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

These are called couplets. Describe them then write one.

"If turkeys gobble,

Do Pilgrims squabble?"

"If cars go zoom,

exhaust smoke will plume!"

"If the phone rings,

hope then still clings."

Then there's the limerick. Describe it.

### **Who Cares For Denise**

By Paul McCann

There was a young girl called Denise ,  
She lived all her life on the streets .  
In need of a prayer .  
Her pockets were bare .  
She died in the arms of a priest .

### **A Cold Woman**

By Paul McCann

There once was a woman of ice .  
She never knew how to be nice .  
She spent all of her life ,  
on the edge of a knife ,  
cutting herself off from advice.

What type of poems are these? Come on, you know that's right they're \_\_\_\_\_

As the wind does blow  
    Across the trees, I see the  
        Buds blooming in May

**I walk across sand**  
**And find myself blistering**  
**In the hot, hot heat**

Falling to the ground,  
    I watch a leaf settle down  
In a bed of brown.

    It's cold—and I wait  
    For someone to shelter me  
And take me from here.

These are called **Concrete Poems**. Can you describe them?

